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TRIAL POSTPONED, ACCUSED PUBLISHER SAID TO SUFFER STROKE
ATHENS, GREECE

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The trial of a Greek publisher charged with tapping the telephones of the New York Times Athens bureau was postponed Friday after his doctors said he had suffered a stroke.

Doctors for George Bobolas, publisher of the Athens newspaper Ethnos, presented the court with medical certificates stating their patient had suffered a stroke and had been flown to London on Thursday for urgent treatment.

Ethnos has the biggest circulation of any newspaper in Greece. Charged along with Bobolas, is Chief Editor Alecos Philippopoulos.

The court set April 25 for a new trial over defense demands that it be postponed indefinitely.

Charges against Bobolas and Philippopoulos were brought by an Athens district attorney after an investigation ordered by the government.

In July 1983 the leftwing Ethnos published what it claimed were transcripts of conversations between a CIA agent and Paul Anastasi, a 34-year-old Greek-Cypriot staffer for the New York Times and the London Daily Telegraph.

A front-page story claimed the two were discussing plans to destabilize democracy in Greece and eliminate the staff of the Ethnos.

The case has spawned a series of suits and countersuits between Anastasi and the Ethnos officials following the publication of Anastasi's book "Take the Nation in Your Hands."

In the book Anastasi charged that Ethnos seeks "to mold public opinion in Soviet interests and pressure the Greek government to loosen its political and military ties with the West."